(b) On reference from Government Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) registered a case against M/s Pure Pharma and M/s Nestor Pharmaceuticals and the same is at an advanced stage of investigation.

Unsuccessful AIDS vaccine

1620. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an AIDS vaccine trial was conducted at the National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune for a full year since February 7, 2005, although it was known within a fortnight that it had failed in Europe;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for continuing the trial despite the fact that it had failed in other countries; and

(d) what action has been taken against the officials responsible for squandering valuable services of the scientists and resources of the institute for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Phase I vaccine trial was initiated at National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune on 7th February, 2005. 30 volunteers participated in this trial and all the trial participants were followed up for one year.

(c) and (d) The Phase I vaccine trial was initiated at NARI, Pune on 7th February, 2005. After the Phase I AAV-2 trial was initiated in India, the results from the Phase I trials in Belgium and Germany were received. The data from Belgium and Germany showed that vaccine was safe and well tolerated. However, no significant immune response was reported. These results were reviewed by the national scientific and ethics committees and it was decided that although the results from Belgium and Germany showed that the vaccine is only weakly immunogenic, different results could be expected from Indian populations due to ethnic differences of the Indian and European populations. Hence the trial in Pune was allowed to continue.

Substandard drugs in Delhi

1621. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that fake drugs worth Rs. 300 crores are being manufactured and sold in the N.C.T. of Delhi as per survey of the Associated Chamber of Commerce;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted to ascertain the factual position in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to combat this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) One the basis of a news report published in Hindustan Times dated 14.02.2008 regarding a recent survey by the Associated Chamber of Commerce (ASSOCHAM) highlighting rise of sale of spurious drugs, the Government wrote to them to authenticate the news and from their reply it appears that the